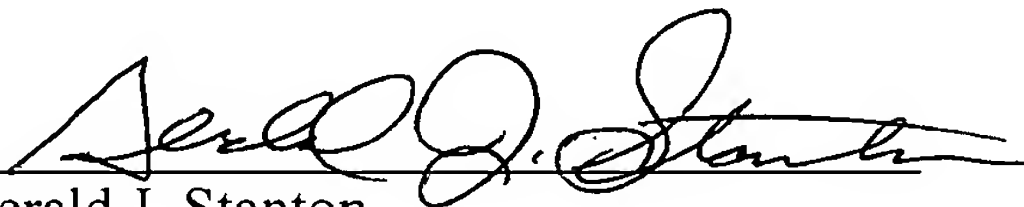


Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-35 are pending in the present application. In the referenced Office Action, the Examiner has asserted two distinct species of the claimed invention: Group I that includes claims 1-18, and Group II that includes claims 19-35.

Applicant elects Group I, claims 1-18, drawn to a channel and method for fabricating the channel. This election is without traverse and without prejudice or disclaimer. The non-elected claims are cancelled in the attached listing of claims. Examination of the elected claims on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted:


Gerald J. Stanton
Reg. No.: 46,008

September 7, 2004
Date

Customer No.: 29683
HARRINGTON & SMITH, LLP
4 Research Drive
Shelton, CT 06484-6212
Phone: (203) 925-9400
Facsimile: (203) 944-0245
Email: gstanton@hspatent.com

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

September 7, 2004
Date


Ann Okrentowich